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PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 0074/048001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kikuo OKUYAMA et al. Art Unit: 2877  
Application No.: 10/521,173 Examiner:  
Title: AEROSOL PARTICLE CHARGING EQUIPMENT  
International Application No.: PCT/JP2003/009055  
International Filing Date : July 16, 2003  
Priority Date : July 17, 2002  
U.S. Filing Date : January 14, 2005

**Mail Stop PCT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicants request that the references cited on attached form PTO-1449 (a copy of which is enclosed) be considered by the Examiner in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 CFR 1.104.

Enclosed also are three new references that were cited and discussed in the office action mailed on October 3, 2006 from Japan Patent Office in a counterpart application. The English abstracts of Japanese Patent Application Publications are also enclosed.

Please note that enclosed is a copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,476,538 which is the English language counterpart for Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 7-24357.

Please note that the English language translation of Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2000-167388 is also enclosed. Please also note that this English translation is a machine translation provided by the Japan Patent Office and the Japan Patent Office states that the translation may not precisely reflect the original Japanese text.

Information Disclosure Statement  
Application No.: 10/521,173  
Page 2

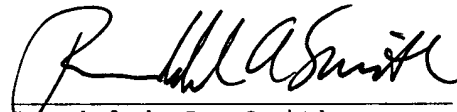
This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at the telephone number listed below. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 30, 2006

  
Randolph A. Smith  
Reg. No. 32,548

**SMITH PATENT OFFICE**

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

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|------------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/521,173           |
| Filing Date            | January 14, 2005     |
| Applicants             | Kikuo OKUYAMA et al. |
| Group Art Unit         | 2877                 |
| Examiner Name          |                      |
| Attorney Docket Number | 0074/048001          |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER<br>Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br><br>(if known) | NAME          | DATE<br>MM-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                      |                          | 5,476,538                                                      | NISHIO et al. | 12/1995         |                                                                                 |
|                      |                          |                                                                |               |                 |                                                                                 |
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document                                     |                     |   | NAME            | DATE<br>MM-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|                      |                          | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>Office <sup>3</sup><br>(if known) | Number <sup>4</sup> |   |                 |                 |                                                                                    |                |
|                      |                          | JP                                                          | 63-3253             | A | ISHIKAWA et al. | 01/1988         |                                                                                    | Abstract       |
|                      |                          | JP                                                          | 7-24357             | A | NISHIO et al.   | 01/1995         |                                                                                    | Abstract       |
|                      |                          | JP                                                          | 2000-167388         | A | MIZUNO et al.   | 06/2000         |                                                                                    | X              |
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number.<sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.<sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the

document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).

<sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede

the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.<sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.